

Senior General Than Shwe congratulates President of USA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to the Honourable Barack Hussein Obama, on the occasion of his inauguration as the 44th President of the United States of America.—MNA

Vice-Senior General Maung Aye sends congratulatory message to US Vice-President

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—Vice-Senior General Maung Aye, Vice-Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a congratulatory message to the Honourable Joseph Robinette Biden Jr., on his assumption of the Office of the Vice-President of the United States of America.—MNA

Traffic Rules Educative Exhibition goes on

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—At the Traffic Rules Educative Exhibition held in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township of Nay Pyi Taw District, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin today heard a report on the aim of organizing the exhibition presented by the Chairman of Township Peace and Development Coun-

cil and accepted commemorative pennants.

The Deputy Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command the Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee and the Chairman of Township PDC formally opened the archway of the exhibition. (See page 8)

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Shan State (North) turning out human resources

Article & Photos: Yamanya Thway Mon

The government has designated and is building 24 special development regions for ensuring equitable development of urban and rural regions throughout the nation.

In the education sector, colleges have been upgraded to universities in States and Divisions.

In the past, local youths from Shan State (North) had to go to Yangon or Mandalay to pursue higher education by spending a large sum of money.

The Lashio University where the local national people from 16 townships of Shan State (North) are learning can be called the Union University. The univer-

sity was opened several years ago in Shan State (North). A total of 11 major subjects are being provided to the students, and the courses for Master's degree are being conducted there.

(See page 7)



The photo shows the Government Technological University (Lashio).

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 23 January, 2009

Encourage rural folks to use biogas widely

Myanmar engages in agricultural farming and livestock farming on a large scale. Agriculture and livestock farming are the main businesses of rural people, who make up 70 per cent of the population of the nation.

Electric power supply is part of the drive for rural development. Now, generation of electric power from biogas has proved successful in rural areas.

Biogas can be extracted from animal waste. Gases that can be extracted from animal dung are methane, carbon dioxide, nitric oxide, ammonia and carbon monoxide and they can be generated into electric power.

Now, innovation has been carried out to build biogas digesters for supply of electric power in rural areas.

Farmers can use biogas to generate electric power, and to substitute firewood. In the process, byproducts can be used as organic fertilizer.

Apart from small-scale biogas digesters for houses, large biogas digesters can be built to supply electric power to the whole village. Biogas can be produced from animal wastes such as cow dung, pig dung, chicken and goat droppings. The dung of five to seven cattle, or pigs, buffalos and goats is enough to produce electricity through biogas for a household.

If biogas is extracted from animal wastes extensively, rural areas can get sufficient electricity and many other benefits at low costs. Therefore, rural residents should use biogas on a wider scale for multipurpose benefits.

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Myanmar, Thailand discuss technical cooperation

YANGON, 22 Jan—With the purpose of promoting the capacity building of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology, national multi-hazard early warning system and the rehabilitation works on the cyclone Nargis affected areas, a meeting on technical cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand was opened at the meeting hall of the department on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road this morning.

Present on the occasion were Director-General of DMH Dr Tun Lwin and officials, Director-General of Department of Relief and Resettlement U Than Oo, Deputy Director-General of Department of Health Dr Kyaw Nyunt Sein, officials from respective ministries, Deputy Director-General of Thailand International

Development Cooperation Agency Mr Opas Chantarasap, Deputy Director-General of



Opening ceremony of Myanmar-Thai technical cooperation in progress at the Meeting Hall of Department of Meteorology and Hydrology on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road.—MNA

National Institute of Emergency Medicine Service System Mr Anurak Amom-petchsathaprm, Director of Weather Forecast Bureau Mr Parawit Jampanya and members. Director-General of DMH Dr Tun Lwin and

Deputy Director-General of Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency Mr Opas Chantarasap made speeches on the occasion.

The directors-general and officials gave clarifications on multi-hazard early warning

systems, rehabilitation tasks related to agriculture, health, social and education sectors in the cyclone-affected areas and disaster preparedness plans and joint work procedures to be carried out by Myanmar and Thailand.—MNA

Customs Magazine 2009 in circulation

YANGON, 22 Jan —To mark the International Customs Day, which falls on 26 January 2009, the Customs Department of Myanmar today, published the Customs Magazine 2009 with actress Rebecca Win on the front cover.

The magazine covers poems of Maung Hay Mar, Maung Kyin Nwe, Myinmu Maung Naing Moe, Maung Yin Hmu, Nyunt Wai (Katha), Min Chan Mon, Naung, Thura Zaw, Ko (Tekkatho), Nwe Thin Naing, Win Wai Naung, Myay Pyant Win Thwe, Pinmana Maung Ni Thin and Ko Moh Oo (Myingyan), documentary photos on the activities of the customs, poems for the children by Theikpan Soe Myint Naing, Myay Latt Maung Myint Thu, Tekkatho Soe Yin, Min Shwe Min (Insein), and Ponnawadi Tint Hnaung, tales of Maung Khit Tun and Min Thet Khaing (Wetla), cartoons of Myayzar, Shwe Min Thar, Ngwe Kyi, Thit Htoon, Maung Maung Hnyat, Tin Aung Ni, Harmony, Ko Nge and Soe San, articles of Thu Maung, Nyunt Han (Kyudaw), Maung Hsu Shin, Pe Myint, Maung Sue San, Saw Mon Nyin, Tin Nyo Tun, Maung Khin Min (Danubyu), Paragu, Athantu Kyei Talone, Kaung Nyunt, Dr. Maung Maung Thein, U Than Htut (retired

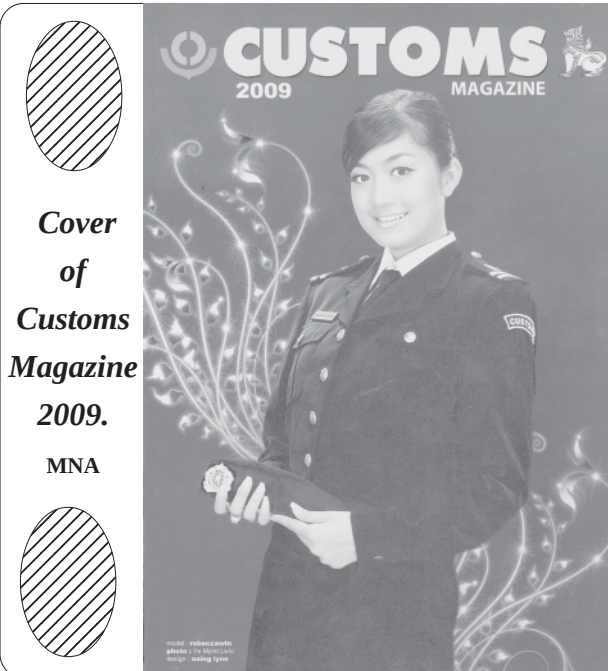
National Sanitation Week activities reviewed

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—A review meeting and the workshop for National Sanitation Week jointly organized by the Health Department and UNICEF, was held at the hall of Htilin Township Health Department in Magway Division on 16 and 17 January.

It was attended by Project Engineer U Aung Myint Soe of Sanitation Section of Health Department, Chairman of Htilin Township Peace and Development Council U Zaw Min, the head of Township Health Department, officials, basic health staff and responsible persons of social organizations.—MNA

professor), Yin Min Oo (University of Medicine), Chit Naing (Psychology) and Maung Yay Sin, legal affairs articles by U Han Nyunt (Law) and U Than Maung (Sittway), religious story by Maung Hsanda (Lewe), Internet news compiled by Phyo Thaya, international jokes by Maung Myint Than (Aunglan) and health and medical articles by Dr. Nightingale and Theikpan Hmu Tin, other articles and short stories.

The magazine is 8 inches by 11 inches in size.—MNA



Cover of Customs Magazine 2009. MNA



People gather around the wreckage of a car bomb blast in Baghdad, Iraq, on 21 Jan, 2009. The dean of a Sunni college escaped assassination in a Baghdad bombing, the third attempt against the life of an education official in less than a week. The blast killed three persons and wounded five others, police said.—INTERNET

Politician escapes bombing in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 22 Jan — A top official of Iraq’s biggest Sunni party escaped assassination in a Baghdad car bombing that killed at least two other people Wednesday — only 10 days ahead of an election that could reshape local power bases.

The US military blamed al-Qaeda in Iraq for the attack against Ziyad al-Ani, deputy secretary-general of the Iraqi Islamic Party and dean of the Islamic University, a Sunni institution.

His party said the blast was a “dangerous indication” of the perilous security in Iraq, even as President Barack Obama prepares to shift America’s focus to Afghanistan.

The car blew up near al-Ani’s convoy as it traveled through the former Sunni insurgent stronghold of Azamiyah in northern Baghdad. Al-Ani, who said he survived two other assassination attempts last year, was not injured.

There were conflicting casualty reports, as is common in Iraq. The US military initially reported college guards were killed but later said two Iraqi civilians had died.

Iraqi police and hospital officials reported four people killed in the attack. It was also unclear whether al-Ani was targeted because of his party position or his job as an educator.

Internet

US military deaths in Afghanistan region at 568

WASHINGTON, 22 Jan—As of Wednesday, 21 Jan, 2009, at least 568 members of the US military had died in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan as a result of the US invasion of Afghanistan in late 2001, according to the Defence Department. The department last updated its figures Wednesday at 10 am EST.

Of those, the military reports 413 were killed by hostile action. Outside the Afghan region, the Defence Department reports 66 more members of the US military died in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Of those, three were the result of hostile action. The military lists these other locations as Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Jordan; Kenya; Kyrgyzstan; Philippines; Seychelles; Sudan; Tajikistan; Turkey; and Yemen.—Internet

Two Iraqi men stand next to the remains of a vehicle following a car bomb attack in Baghdad. President Barack Obama had a frenetic first day in the White House, diving into tricky Middle East diplomacy, ordering a troop drawdown in Iraq and even retaking the oath of office.

INTERNET



Russian strategic bombers patrol Norwegian Sea, Arctic Ocean

MOSCOW, 22 Jan—Four Russian strategic bombers conducted patrols over the Norwegian Sea and the Arctic Ocean on Wednesday, the Interfax news agency reported. Among them, two *Tu-160* bombers started their first patrols over the waters this year, Air Force spokesman Vladimir Drik said.

“The aircraft were escorted by NATO fighters, including *F-16s* belonging to the Norwegian Air Force and Tornados of the Royal Air Force,” Interfax quoted Drik as saying.

The other two *Tu-95MS* bombers, which were escorted by *US F-15* fighters, flew over the Arctic Ocean toward the Aleutian Islands, he said. —Internet

Iraqi accuses Iranian exiles of planning attack

BAGHDAD, 22 Jan — A senior Iraqi official has accused an Iraq-based Iranian opposition group of planning a suicide attack against Iraqi security forces, raising concern that the government in Baghdad may try to expel the exiles from the country.

The Iraqi government has promised not to forcibly evict the People’s Mujahedeen Organization of Iran from its Camp Ashraf base north of Baghdad.

But National Security Adviser Mouwaffak al-Rubaie was quoted as saying that a camp resident confessed that his leaders told him to carry out a suicide attack against Iraqi security forces guarding Ashraf.

Internet

Canada not to extend Afghan mission

OTTAWA, 22 Jan — Canadian Defence Minister Peter MacKay said Tuesday Canada will pull its combat troops out of Afghanistan no matter how nicely US President Barack Obama asks Canada to stay.

MacKay said there is a lot of good will for Obama in his quest to beef up the international military presence in Afghanistan. And Canada will speak with the Obama administration about how to make the Afghan mission a success, the *Canadian Press* reported.

But Canada will stick to its Parliament-mandated 2011 exit date for the mission in the Kandahar region of the war-torn country, he insisted. —Internet

An Egyptian woman on her donkey cart passes trucks loaded with aids outside Rafah Crossing at the Egyptian-Gaza border, on 21 Jan, 2009. Four days after Israel announced a unilateral ceasefire in the Palestinian territory of Gaza Strip, more humanitarian aid convoys arrived at Rafah crossing at the Egyptian-Gaza border, waiting for the permission to get into the Palestinian enclave.

XINHUA



Humanitarian aid waiting for entry into Gaza at Egyptian border

RAFAH, 22 Jan — Four days after Israel announced a unilateral ceasefire in the Palestinian territory of Gaza Strip, more humanitarian aid convoys arrived at Rafah crossing at the Egyptian-Gaza border, waiting for the permission to get into the Palestinian enclave.

Asem Amin, an official of the Arab Medical Union, said the organization has collected a number of

ambulances from various countries for the Palestinians in Gaza.

“We sent some three to five ambulances into Gaza every time,” said Amin, who has been at the Egyptian border for several days, adding, “Some 25 ambulances have been sent into Gaza.”

“The ambulances are gifts for the Palestinian people, who suffered a lot in the conflict,” said

Amin, adding that the Arab organization has the plan to collect 70 ambulances, donated by charities or medical bodies of countries such as Qatar, Bahrain, Jordan and Turkey.

In addition, Amin said the organization have dispatched 150 Egyptian doctors into Gaza to provide medical treatment for the wounded Palestinians.

Internet

Iran, Tanzania ink MoU on defence co-op

TEHERAN, 22 Jan— Iran and Tanzania signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) here on Wednesday to boost defence cooperation, Iranian Students news agency (ISNA) reported.

The MoU involves sharing defence and military experiences and dispatching delegations on service, technical and training fields, according to ISNA.

The MoU was signed

between Iran's Defence Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar and Tanzania's Minister for Defence and National Service Hussein Mwinyi.

Najjar stressed the importance of the cooperation between the two countries and the expansion of ties with Tanzania "in all fields," reasoning that Iran had valuable experiences in diverse areas.

Mwinyi also stressed the need to broaden de-

fence ties between Iran and Tanzania.

Invited by Najjar, Mwinyi, heading a military delegation, arrived in Teheran on Monday for talks with Iranian officials on defence cooperation.

Teheran has reiterated its interest in developing close and intimate relations in diverse areas with the African counties which is claimed to be in Iran's strategic agenda.

Xinhua



Community residents taste the dishes cooked by a hotel's chef, who came to the 1st July Community to teach the residents refined cookery for the family reunion dinner on the Chinese lunar New Year's Eve, in Xuchang, central China's Henan Province, on 20 Jan, 2009.—XINHUA

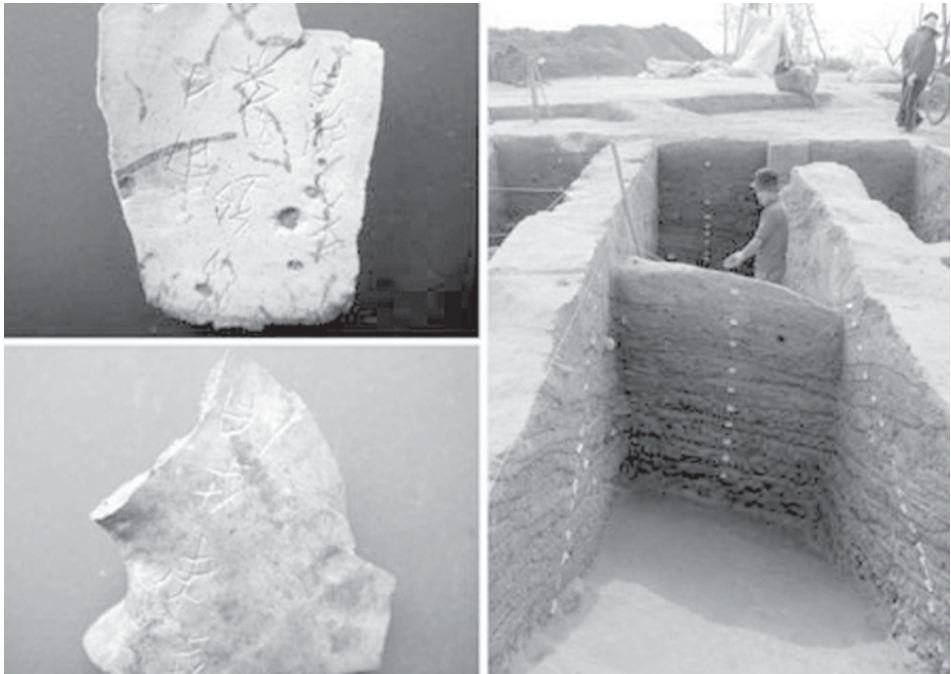
China's economy grows 9% in 2008

BEIJING, 22 Jan—China's gross domestic product (GDP) reached 30.0670 trillion yuan (4.4216 trillion US dollars) in 2008, up 9 percent year on year, said the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Thursday.

The growth was the slowest since 2001, when an annual rate of 8.3 percent was recorded, and the first time below a double-digit level since 2003.

The overall national economy maintained the good developing momentum of fast growth, stable prices, optimized structures and improved welfare, said Ma Jiantang, director of the NBS, at a press conference.

The annual growth rate for the fourth quarter dipped to 6.8 percent from 9.0 percent in the third quarter and 9.9 percent for the first three quarters, according to Ma.—Xinhua



The combo photo taken on 8 Nov, 2008 shows oracle bones and their excavation site at the Zhougong Temple site in Qishan County of northwest China's Shaanxi Province.—XINHUA

Over 125 products recalled in salmonella outbreak in US

WASHINGTON, 22 Jan— The US Food and Drug Administration said on Wednesday it has recalled at least 125 products in connection with the salmonella outbreak. The FDA said the products included cookies, ice cream and pet food.

All the products contained peanut paste or peanut butter made at a factory located in Georgia and owned by the Peanut Corporation of America (PCA).

The FDA confirmed the presence of salmonella at the PCA factory. The factory sells its products to more than 70 institutions and food companies, but not to individual consumers.—Xinhua

Strong earthquake hits New Caledonia

WELLINGTON, 22 Jan— A strong earthquake measuring 6.3 on the Richter scale hit the southeast of New Caledonia's Loyalty Islands on Thursday, according to the US Geological Survey.

There was no report of casualties or damage.

The quake occurred at 06:08 am New Zealand local time Thursday (1708 GMT Wednesday). It hit about 115 km southwest of Ile Hunter, Loyalty Islands, and 470 km east of the New Caledonian capital of Noumea. The quake was at a depth of 35 km.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre did not issue a tsunami warning.

New Caledonia is made up of one long main island, surrounded by a 1,600 km long coral reef, and a scattering of smaller islands. Its population is about 240,000.—Xinhua

Series moderate quakes rocks Indonesia

JAKARTA, 22 Jan— A series of moderate earthquakes with magnitudes of 5.7 and 5.2 struck eastern parts of Indonesia on Thursday, no report of damage or casualty, meteorology agency said here.

The 5.7 magnitude quake jolted at 10:01 Jakarta time (0301 GMT) with epicenter at 22 kilometers northwest Labuha town of North Maluku Province and at 105 kilometres under land, an official of the agency Rahma Baharruddin told Xinhua. The intensity of the quake was felt at 2 MMI (Modified Mercalli Intensity) at the town, she said.

Five hours earlier, the 5.2 quake hit Maluku Province with epicenter at 78 kilometres northeast Saumlaki town of the province and at 78 kilometres under sea bed, said Baharruddin.—Xinhua

China mulls on stimulus package for petrochemical industry

BEIJING, 22 Jan— China is expected to announce a 500-billion-yuan stimulus package for the struggling petrochemical industry.

The stimulus package includes 100-billion-yuan investment in 2009 and 2010 for oil products upgrade, and investment of 400 billion yuan for construction of 20 new large-scale petrochemical projects, China Business

News reported, citing unnamed sources.

The proposed package will be submitted to the State Council for approval soon. Sources with China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Association (CPCIA) said it is expected to be announced after the Chinese Lunar New Year.

The nation had earlier announced stimulus packages for steel and auto industries recently.

"The package will focus on oil products restructuring and improvement on technology," an industry insider, who declined to be named, said.

Xinhua



A general view of Sinopec refinery in Zhejiang Province.—XINHUA

All items from Xinhua News Agency



Car salesman Bobby Sisk Jr walks through the showroom as he waits for customers at Ellis Brooks Chevrolet in December last year in San Francisco, California. General Motors was eclipsed by Toyota as the world's largest automaker for the first time in 77 years as the troubled American giant reported sharply lower global sales.—INTERNET

Security Council calls for durable Gaza cease-fire

UNITED NATIONS, 22 Jan—The UN Security Council on Wednesday called for the temporary cease-fire in Gaza to be turned into a durable truce with guarantees to prevent arms smuggling and to ensure that all border crossings are permanently reopened.

All 15 council members agreed to a press statement drafted by Britain and France that welcomed Sunday's unilateral cease-fires by Israel and Hamas militants following Israel's offensive aimed at halting years of militant rocket fire by Hamas on its southern communities and arms smuggling into Gaza.

The council also expressed "grave concern" at the humanitarian situation in Gaza, where some 1,300 people were killed and many buildings and neighbourhoods destroyed, and urged the unimpeded delivery of aid. The Security Council emphasized the need to fully implement the legally binding resolution adopted by the council on 8 Jan which called for "an immediate, durable and fully respected cease-fire."—*Internet*

India BrahMos missile misses target in test-fire

MUMBAI, 22 Jan—Indian Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) Wednesday admitted there were some "minor hitches" during the test-fire of BrahMos missile one day ago, reported NDTV. DRDO officials said that there were small hitches in the last stage of the missile test, which was conducted in the Pokhran ranges of west state Rajasthan on a new version of BrahMos missile on Tuesday. —*Internet*



Mails with white powder force evacuation of WSJ offices

NEW YORK, 22 Jan—Two floors of the Manhattan offices of *The Wall Street Journal* were evacuated Wednesday after the paper's headquarters received envelopes containing an unknown white powder. The suspicious mails, in identical, white envelopes with Tennessee postmarks, were addressed to several New York-based WSJ executives, the paper said in a story on its website. The two evacuated floors housed news, editorial and executive personnel, the paper said, adding that only a core group of editors remained in the building to ensure production of newspaper for Thursday and that others were sent home or to back-up facilities.—*Internet*

A woman talks on her mobile phone outside Beijing Railway Station on 21 Jan. Chinese New Year, also known as the Lunar New Year, falls this year on 26 Jan and the government has predicted around 188 million passengers will travel by train in the days before and after that.—INTERNET

Israeli Army completes pullout from Gaza Strip

GAZA, 22 Jan—A spokesman for the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) told *Xinhua* Wednesday that it has completed troops pullout from the Gaza Strip.

The last Israeli soldier left the Gaza Strip this morning and Israeli army are redeploying alongside the Gaza Strip of Israeli side, said the spokesman.

Meanwhile, an Israeli army spokesman, also told Israel Radio that the Israeli

army had completed its redeployment into the Gaza Strip, and finalized its withdrawal from the enclave. The spokesman told the radio "the last Israeli soldier had withdrawn from the Gaza Strip on Wednesday morning, and the Israeli army forces deployed outside the Gaza Strip areas, but they are still ready for any emergency." Palestinian security sources confirmed Wednesday that the last

Israeli soldier withdrew from the Gaza Strip after its large-scale military offensive on the strip that lasted for 22 days and ended on 18 Jan.

The sources, closed to Hamas interior ministry, said that the Israeli army had finalized its withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and kept its forces stationed on the border between Israel and the blockaded enclave.

Internet

Sony Corp's Inazawa factory is pictured in Inazawa, central Japan on 22 Jan, 2009. Sony is considering consolidating its TV operation by eliminating production at one of its two factories in Japan, a company official said Thursday, amid speculation the company is falling into its first annual operating loss in 14 years.

INTERNET



German economy may face biggest contraction since World War II

BERLIN, 22 Jan—The German economy, the biggest in Europe, in 2009 may face the worst contraction since the end of World War II, the country's annual economic report said Wednesday.

The German economy may contract by as much as 2.25 percent this year and might only show the first signs of recovery in

the second half of the year, the report said.

"It is the sharpest contraction in German economy after World War II", Economy Minister Michael Glos told reporters. The main reason for that is a decline in exports, the main driving force of the German economy, he said.

German exports, which

increased 3.9 percent in 2008, will plunge 8.9 percent in 2009, the report said.

Meanwhile, Germany's unemployment rate will increase from 7.8 percent in 2008 to 8.4 percent in 2009, with the number of jobless people reaching 3.5 million, the report said.

Internet



Park rangers look at a crocodile carcass in South Africa's famous Kruger National Park wildlife reserve. The giant reptiles were victims of a killer condition that had hardened their body fat to a rubber-like state, leaving them unable to move and defenceless against exposure, hunger, drowning or being eaten alive.—INTERNET

Bangladesh, India to sign deals on trade, investment promotion

DHAKA, 22 Jan—Bangladesh and India are set to sign two agreements on bilateral trade and investment promotion and protection soon, the Indian high commissioner in Dhaka said on Wednesday.

After meetings with Bangladesh's Foreign Minister Dipu Moni and State Minister Hassan Mahmud, Indian High Commissioner Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty told reporters here that the agreements are likely to be signed during Indian External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee's visit to Dhaka on 8-9 Feb.

Pinak said the three-year bilateral trade agreement between the two countries will expire in March this year and it would be renewed.

Internet



T-34, a remote-controlled security robot, launches a net at a mock intruder during a photo opportunity in Tokyo on 21 Jan, 2009. T-34 users can see live images from the robot's camera and control the robot using a mobile phone. —INTERNET

1,284 Gazans dead, 4,336 wounded

KHAN YOUNIS, 22 Jan—Squatting in the rubble, his briefcase perched atop his knees, the human rights researcher interviewed residents of a house shelled by Israel as he compiled a list of Gazans killed and wounded during Israel's offensive against Hamas.

Yasser Abdel Ghafar's work is part of a painstaking endeavor by the Palestinian Center for Human Rights to count the casualties of the 23-day war. The group released a final tally on Wednesday,

saying 1,284 Gazans were killed and 4,336 wounded, the vast majority civilians.

Israel has accused Hamas of inflating the civilian casualties, saying it has the names of more than 700 Hamas militants killed in the fighting.

The two sides disagree on the death toll, particularly the ratio of combatants and civilians.

On Wednesday, fieldworker Abdel Ghafar worked to uncover the circumstances of how one family lost its home and

two relatives.

As family members and neighbours sat on plastic chairs in an alley nearby, Abdel Ghafar spoke quietly to 28-year-old Rami Najjar, who was in the three-story house in Khan Yunis close to Israel's border when it came under fire last week.

His 75-year-old grandfather Khalil Najjar and the elderly man's 7-year-old granddaughter, Alla, were killed in the attack, which reduced the house to rubble.

Internet

Gunmen attack ship in Nigeria, kidnap worker

LAGOS, 22 Jan—Gunmen attacked a ship carrying diesel fuel across Nigeria's restive southern region Wednesday, kidnapping a foreign sailor and inflicting heavy damage on the vessel, officials said.

Heavily armed assailants riding in four speedboats hit the "MT Meredith" around dawn as it transported 4,000 metric tons (4,410 US tons) of diesel on behalf of one of Nigeria's biggest locally owned oil- and gas-services company, a private security official said.

The official said the unidentified gunmen inflicted "massive" damage on the tanker's engine and superstructure. A Romanian sailor was kidnapped during the attack on the vessel, which was making its way from the commercial centre of Lagos to the main oil-region hub of Port Harcourt.—*Internet*

Va Tech student fatally stabbed; suspect caught

BLACKSBURG, 22 Jan—A female student was stabbed to death Wednesday night on Virginia Tech's campus, the first killing at the school since a deadly mass shooting there in 2007.

The killing triggered a crisis notification system that was revamped after the shooting rampage, beaming an electronic warning around 7:45 pm that students should stay in place while police investigated. Students were told about an hour later they could resume normal activity.

A male suspect was taken into custody around 7:10 pm, according to a university news release. Campus police responding to an emergency call found the man and a knife they believe was used at the scene, a cafe in the Graduate Life Centre. Both the victim and the suspect are graduate students at Virginia Tech, and police believe they knew each other, the school said.—*Internet*

Boy, 8, spent 10 days with dead mom



Buildings in an apartment complex where an 8-year-old boy who survived Hurricane Katrina spent more than a week with the body of his dead mother is shown in Romulus, Mich.

An 8-year-old boy lived for more than a week with the body of his dead mother before telling a concerned shopkeeper his mom was "in a better place," police said. Gaynell Tipado, 41, apparently died in their apartment in the Detroit suburb of Romulus, and the boy survived in part by eating dried rice, butter and flour, authorities said.

The family moved to Michigan from Louisiana after surviving Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Foul play was not suspected in Tipado's death, and an autopsy was pending.

Lee Saco told *The Associated Press* that the boy and his mother came into Romulus Liquor regularly for about a year and a half. But four times during

the past week the boy uncharacteristically walked about a block to the store by himself — sometimes through Arctic cold and other times wearing pajama bottoms.

"I questioned him, 'Where is your mom?'" Saco said when the boy first came into the store by himself to buy milk, chips, candy and bread with cash. During the next two visits, he said the boy bought a number of items, including bread.

Saco, who co-owns the store with his brother Sam, said he was curious from the beginning but his concern heightened on Monday when the boy tried to buy \$34.80 worth of grocery items — including nacho cheese dip, a package each of processed ham and turkey, hamburger buns, milk, doughnuts and candy — with his mother's credit card.



A sea lion wearing a lion hat for the New Year's celebrations reacts to a lion's head puppet at an aquarium in Tokyo, Japan.



A man smokes and drinks at a bar. The World Health Organization warned Monday the global financial crisis may spark a rise in mental illness and health problems as people turn to alcohol, tobacco and drugs to get through the downturn.

Natural disasters doomed early civilization

Nature turned against one of America's early civilizations 3,600 years ago, when researchers say earthquakes and floods, followed by blowing sand, drove away residents of an area that is now in Peru. "This maritime farming community had been successful for over 2,000 years, they had no incentive to change, and then all of a sudden, boom, they just got the props knocked out from under them," anthropologist Mike Moseley of the University of Florida said in a statement.

Moseley and colleagues were studying civilization of the Supe Valley along the Peruvian coast, which was established up to 5,800 years ago.

Women less able to suppress hunger than men

Faced with their favorite foods, women are less able than men to suppress their hunger, a discovery that may help explain the higher obesity rate for females, a new study suggests. Researchers trying to understand the brain's mechanisms for controlling food intake were surprised at the difference between the sexes in brain response.

Gene-Jack Wang of Brookhaven National Laboratory and colleagues were trying to figure out why some people overeat and gain weight while others don't.



Rows of portable toilets in Washington DC. Eighteen portable toilets at construction sites around the city of San Francisco have been set on fire in the past two months.

NEWS ALBUM

Shan State (North) turning out human resources

Article & Photos: Yamanya Thway Mon

(from page 1)

With regard to education standard of the local national races, Pro-Rector Dr. Khin Maung Oo of the university explained, "It was the pleasure for the local national students at the convocation in August 2008 in the presence of their parents and faculty members. Local people also took pride in nurturing human resources in their region. At the university, the students are being equipped with the spirit of national unity, the spirit of cooperation, leadership and good mental characters in addition to respective academic subjects."

The establishment of Lashio University that is forging the national unity, turning out human resources for the State and conducting necessary development



Principal of Government Technological University (Lashio) Dr Zaw Min Oo.

research to provide the higher learning subjects to the students is a milestone in the education sector of Shan State.

Indeed, Lashio University originated in the regional college and then Lashio College. In 1999, it was upgraded to Lashio Degree College, and in 2007, the facility was upgraded to Lashio University.

From 1988 to date, the government had opened universities and

colleges in all regions of the nation for enhancement of the education sector and upgraded them to the higher levels. The Border Areas and National Races Development Plan has been implemented since 1989. The government is fulfilling the requirements of transport, education and health infrastructures of the border areas. At the same time, plans are being implemented for development of the human resources

with the aim of turning out intellectuals and intelligentsia from the youth of the national races.

Moreover, Technical Training Schools were opened for turning out national races to become skillful technicians, Universities of Computer Studies for producing IT

ment Technological University can be seen east side of Union Highway near Hopeik Village, 7 miles from Lashio. The stake driving ceremony was held on 1 May 2005 and the university was inaugurated on 1 July 2007.

The front row of the Technological Uni-

present, new University of Computer Studies is under construction near Mehan Village, southern part of the town and east of Union Highway.

The University of Computer Studies, with the similar building design of Technological University, is being built on 112 acres of land. At present, altogether 222 students are learning computer science courses for the undergraduate and post-graduate courses such as M.I. Sc. and D.C.Sc.

Shan State (North) has been able to turn out advanced IT technicians in the region. Based on Lashio University of Computer Studies, the Computer Professionals Association Branch will be organized soon. For enabling computer enthusiasts to apply the computer applications, three Internet Cafés have been opened in the urban area of Lashio.

While the technologies are developing in the world, the government and local authorities are striving for enabling the local youth to study the information and communication technology in Shan State (North).

**Translation: TTA
Kyemon: 10-1-2009**



Pro-Rector Dr Khin Maung Oo of Lashio University.

technicians and Technological Universities for recruiting the engineers for the urban projects.

In Lashio, Govern-

ment is 513 feet long, 265 feet wide and 56 feet high and it is of reinforced concrete type. The main building is a three-storey facility and left and right buildings, two-storey ones. At present, 408 students are pursuing civil engineering course, electrical communication engineering courses, electrical power engineering course, mechanical power engineering course and computer-applied machine tools engineering course.

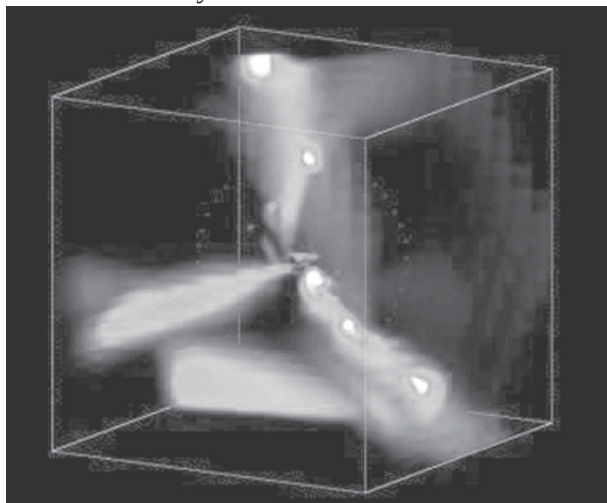
In the past, Lashio Government Computer College was located at exit of Lashio to Namtu. At



University of Computer Studies (Lashio) is under construction in Lashio.

New understanding of origin of galaxies advanced

JERUSALEM, 22 Jan — A new theory as to how galaxies were formed in the Universe billions of



years ago has been formulated by Hebrew University of Jerusalem cosmologists. The theory takes issue with the prevailing view on how the galaxies came to exist.

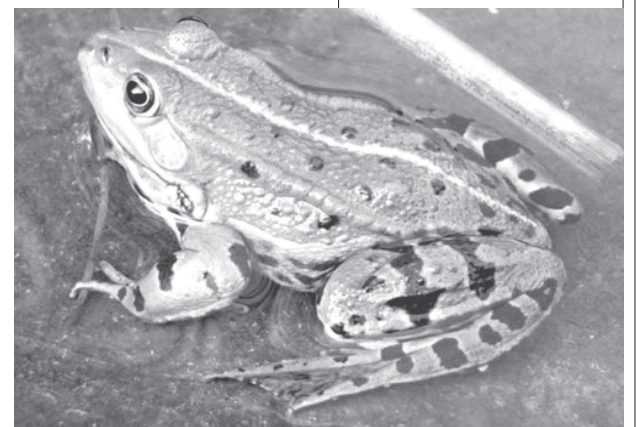
The new theory, motivated by advanced astronomical observations and based on state-of-the-art computer simulations, maintains that the galaxies primarily formed as a result of intensive cosmic streams of cold gas (mostly hydrogen) and not, as current theory contends, due primarily to galactic mergers.—Internet

Frogs being eaten to extinction, experts say

ADELAIDE, 22 Jan — The global trade in frog legs for human consumption is threatening their extinction, according to a new study by an international team including University of Adelaide researchers.

The researchers say the global pattern of harvesting and decline of wild populations of frogs appears to be following the same path set by overexploitation of the seas

and subsequent "chain reaction" of fisheries collapses around the world.—Internet



**European frog.
The global trade in frog legs for human consumption is threatening their extinction.**

Traffic Rules Educative Exhibition goes on...

(from page 1)

The commander and party visited the booths of exhibition and shops of consumer products, foodstuff and farming equipment.

On arrival at the integrated farm of farmer U Aung Bo in Yanaungmyin Village, the chairman of Township PDC reported on progress of agriculture and livestock breeding through the combined farming system.

After meeting with local farmers, the commander viewed tasks of the integrated farm.—MNA

Paddy husk-fired generator opens

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—A ceremony to present cash donations and sports gear to Aye Yeik Mon-2 female orphanage was held in ChaungU township of Sagaing Division yesterday.

Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint made a speech and presented K 200,000, sports gear, exercise books and guide books for the matriculation exam.

Next, the minister at-

tended the opening ceremonies of rural development camp, Alinthis self-reliant library and paddy husk-fired generator. The paddy husk-fire generator can produce 50 KVA supplying power to 230 houses, over 20 video houses and lamp-posts. In addition, it supports water supply and costs K 8.5 million in total.

Afterwards, the minister met with local people and presented sports gear and exercise books.

MNA

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint cordially greets the readers at Ahlinthis Self-Reliance library of Tawchaungoo Village in Myinmu Township.

MNA



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin views the educative rooms and other booths at Traffic Rules Educative Exhibition in Nay Pyi Taw Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw District.—MNA

Ygn Division to establish mechanized farming zone

YANGON, 22 Jan—A meeting was held at Dagon International Ltd in Dagon Myothit (East) Township, Yangon East District, here, this afternoon to establish Yangon Division mechanized farming zone.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Brig-Gen Win Myint delivered an address to the

meeting.

Departmental officials and agricultural entrepreneurs reported on work progress. The commander attended to the requirements.

The commander looked into digging of inlet canal, drain and tributary canal in 200 acres summer paddy plantation of Dagon International Ltd and ploughing and culti-

vation with tractors.

He viewed summer paddy plantations of Yuzana Co and model summer paddy field of Htoo Trading Co.

The commander also viewed model summer paddy plot of Hsinshweli Co Ltd and ploughing fields with tractors, irrigation and paddy cultivation and then fulfilled the needs.—MNA



Charity DVD show on 27 January

YANGON, 22 Jan—A new DVD film entitled “Ngar-ya-hna-se-shit Myinpyai” will be on screen at Shwe Mann Cinema Hall in Myaenigon here at 8.30 p.m. on 27 January (Tuesday) to raise the funds of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association (Central).

The play starring Lu Min, Poe Chit Tun Eindra Bo and other supporting ac-

tors was directed by Dr Tun Aung Zaw for Ye Myint Film Production. The story is based on the comic “Myaing Yazar Tutpi” by Cartoonist Swe Min. Poe Chit who played the role of Bikegalay will watch the film together with the audience.

Those wishing to book tickets may contact Shwe Mann Cinema Hall (Ph: 535248). —MNA

National Seminar on the Role of Environment in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) held

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—A ceremony to open National Seminar on the Role of Environment in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), jointly organized by National Commission for Environmental Affairs (NCEA) of the Ministry of Forestry and United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), was held at the hall of Forest Research in Yezin here this morning.

Director-General U

San Lwin of Planning and Statistics Department under the Ministry of Forestry made an opening speech on the occasion and Resident Consultant of UNEP Mr Nizar Mohamed gave talks.

Representatives of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Forestry discussed matters on facilitating continuous development in storm-hit regions with the better

administrations in public level, regional level and state level environmental and natural resources management.

Altogether 60-representatives of ministries relating to sectors in natural environmental conservation and natural disaster relief and resettlement, international organizations and guests attended the workshop and nine papers were submitted.

MNA



Director-General U San Lwin delivers an address at the meeting of National Seminar on the Role of Environment in Disaster Risk Reduction.—MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—The Government of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Ye Dabo as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Union of Myanmar in succession to HE Mr. Guan Mu.

Mr. Ye Dabo was born in March 1956 in Fujian Province. He joined the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the People's Republic of China in 1986 and had served in various capacities in the Foreign Affairs Office of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Leading Group Office as well as at the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Houston. From 2004 to 2006, he served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Commonwealth of Dominica. He is currently serving as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and concurrently Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Republic of Maldives.

He is married and has one son.—MNA

Free Clinic opens in Yankin Township

YANGON, 22 Jan — A free clinic founded by Tamil Hindu Religious Trust Fund was opened in Yankin Township on 18 January.

The free clinic at No. 66, Building No. 2 on Mogaung Road in Yankin Township was formally opened by Lt-Col Khin Maung Tun of Yangon Station, Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council U Than Aung, Chairman of Yankin Township PDC U Ko Ko Aung and Vice-President of All Myanmar Hindu Religion Central Organization Thudhamma Mani Jotadhara U Nanda.

The clinic is kept open from 10 am to noon daily except Sundays and gazetted holidays and these wishing to donate medicines and medical equipment to the clinic may contact the clinic.

MNA



Minister Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint delivers opening speech at short-term metre/ledger refresher course of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board.—ELECTRIC-2

Short-term metre/ledger refresher course No. 1/2009 opened

YANGON, 21 Jan—A short-term metre/ledger refresher course No 1/2009 for clerical staff of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board was held at Yangon City Electricity Supply Board Head Office on Ahlon Road yesterday.

Minister for Electric Power No. 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint spoke on the occasion.

The course is being attended by 253 trainees from four districts in Yangon Division.

MNA

Norwegian, Danish delegation members tour storm-hit regions

YANGON, 22 Jan—A delegation led by Norwegian Minister for the Environment Mr. Erik Gudbrand Solheim and a delegation led by Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Ms. Ulla Pedersen Tornaes arrived here by air on 21 January to observe humanitarian and rehabilitation works being carried out in storm-hit regions.

They were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Tripartite Core Group Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and officials.

Delegation members met non-governmental organizations who are giving helping hands in rehabilitation of storm-hit regions.

Next, they met the TCG Chairman and party at Chatrium Hotel here and attended the reception hosted by UN Coordinator to Myanmar UNDP Resident Representative Dr. Bishow Parajuli.

In the evening, TCG Chairman Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu hosted dinner in honour of Norwegian and Danish delegation members.

The delegation members together with the TCG Chairman left here for storm-hit regions by helicopter this morning. At Pyinsalu of Labutta Township, they observed housing complex project, Basic Education High School, dispensary and works being carried out

by Myanmar Red Cross Society and international non-governmental organizations, and met with local people.

Next, the ministers and delegation members went to Hlaingphone village in Mawlamyinegyun Township and visited housing complex project, school building, solar energy-used power station, dispensary, International Development Enterprise and projects of UNDP, and cordially greeted local people.

At Setsan village in Bogale Township, they observed housing complex project, distribution of supplies by WFP and Care Myanmar, Setsan village BEHS, 16-bed hospital which is under construction, drinking water treatment programme of UNICEF, health care service being provided by MSF and IOM and works being carried out in Setsan village-tract by UNDP, and met with local people.

Next, they proceeded to Seikkyi model village of Tawkhayangyi village-tract in Kungyangon Township.

They viewed housing complex project being implemented in Seikkyi model village under the supervision of TCG, building and distribution of fishing boats, betel plantations, Seikkyi model village BEPS and wells to be used for drinking water and cordially greeted local people.

Similarly, the remaining Norwegian and Danish delegation members together with Deputy Director-General U Aung Tun Khaing of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement observed post-Nargis rehabilitation tasks of Hlinethaya and Kungyangon Townships and met with local people.

Next, some delegation members led by the Norwegian and Danish ministers left here by air this evening.

They were seen off at the airport by TCG Chairman Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Thu and officials.

MNA



Norwegian Minister Mr. Erik Gudbrand Solheim , Danish Minister Ms. Ulla Pedersen Tornaes and Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu view Pyinsalu Township BEHS in Labutta Township.—MNA

All this needs to be known

- * Do not be frightened whenever intimidated
- * Do not be bolstered whenever flattered
- * Do not be softened whenever appeased

Diverted Paunglaung River takes its course at Paunglaung Hydropower Project

Article, photos: Photographer Maung Maung

(from page 16)
accompaniment of the applause of Minister Col Zaw Min, Deputy Minister U Myo Myint, officials and guests, and an entertainment programme presented by the cultural troupe.

The minister and party viewed the blocking of river to divert its current, taking a stroll along the dam. The minister greeted the employees of the project, local people and members of the cultural troupe in a cordial atmosphere.

The minister, the deputy minister and party sprinkled scented water into the river and presented baskets of fruit to the employees at the pavilion on the right bank. Next, coloured hot air balloons were released and many other golden, silvery and coloured balloons were set adrift into the Paunglaung River to mark the successful completion of the re-diversion of the current of the river.

From EL-378 observation tower, the minister, the deputy minister and officials inspected progress in re-blocking the temporary diversion dam, the sites chosen for construction of the main dam, the intake structure, the hydropower station and the switch yard.



The outlet portal of the diversion tunnel of Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project.



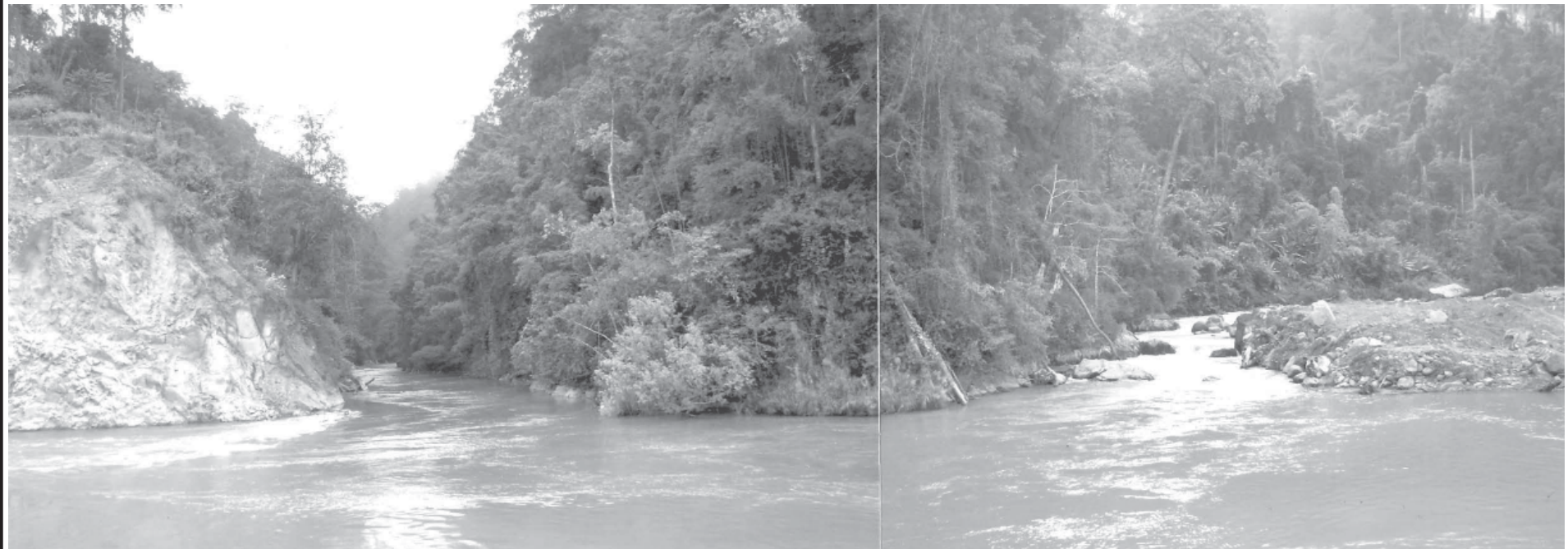
The Paunglaung River was blocked on 5 December 2008 to divert its current.

The current of the Paunglaung River had to be diverted temporarily at the confluence of the Paunglaunggyi River and the Paunglaungnge River by constructing 960-foot-long 33-foot-diameter temporary diversion tunnel as groundwork was to be carried out in the bed of the river for construction of such project structures as the main dam, the hydropower station, the intake structure, the switch yard, and the separation wall.

After the diversion process, all the water that remained at the project area in the river had to be pumped out in order to implement the project.

After the construction work has been completed, the temporary diversion tunnel will be blocked by the two sluice gates installed on it. Then, the temporary separation wall will be unearthed in order that the project will be able to receive the current of the Paunglaung River.

Translation: MS
Myanma Alin: 22-1-2009



The confluence of the Paunglaunggyi River and the Paunglaungnge River.

Two die in Brunei floods, power interrupted



Two women died in Brunei in the worst floods to hit the Southeast Asian country in nearly 40 years.—INTERNET

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 22 Jan—Two women died in Brunei in the worst floods to hit the Southeast Asian country in nearly 40 years, interrupting power supply and shutting some telephone lines, the police and weather department said.

Heavy rains started late on Tuesday in the oil-rich country's capital Bandar Seri Begawan, causing flash floods and landslides. The city's main power station was also affected.

The oil and gas facilities nearly 100 miles

south of the capital were not affected, according to Brunei Shell Petroleum Co. officials.

"All our stations have been put on alert for any further developments and we are keeping a very close eye on the weather," said Brunei fire brigade chief Yahya Abdul Rahman.

Power supply is slowly being restored in the capital, the electricity department said.

Around 145.8 millimetres of rainfall was recorded during the 24-hour period from 8 a.m. Tuesday to 8 a.m. Wednesday, according to the weather department, which expects more rain in the coming days but not as heavy as on Tuesday. —Internet



A girl from quake-affected Sichuan Province (L) receives a gift from her peer of "love family" at the railway station in Cangzhou, north China's Hebei Province, on 22 Jan, 2009. Children from ten poor families of Pingwu county, Mianyang city, southwest China's Sichuan Province were invited by volunteer charity families in Cangzhou to spend the Chinese Lunar New Year.—INTERNET

Georgia says to resume gas supplies to S.Ossetia

ATLANTA, 22 Jan—Georgia said on Thursday it would resume gas supplies to its breakaway South Ossetia region, cut since war with Russia in August. Russia accused Georgia of dragging its

feet in mending the damaged pipeline with temperatures in the region at the foot of the Caucasus mountains plummeting below zero.

Georgia said the pipeline was damaged in a re-

gion occupied by Russian troops since August, making access difficult.

"The decision is made and supply of gas could be resumed either today or in a few days," Georgian Deputy Energy Minister Nino Enukidze told *Reuters*. The director general of gas supplier Itera Georgia, David Beradze, told *Reuters* the pipeline was being tested and gas supply would resume soon. The company waited for special government permission because of Georgian legislation prohibiting commercial activity on the territory of South Ossetia and another breakaway region, Abkhazia — both recognised by Russia as independent states and secured by Russian troops. —Internet

Tamil Tiger 'command hub taken'

COLOMBO, 22 Jan—Sri Lanka's army says it has captured what it believes is the main operations centre of Tamil rebels in the north. Army spokesman Brig Udaya Nanayakkara said troops had found detailed maps of army and rebel deployments in an empty building in Mullaitivu district.

Meanwhile the UN has criticized the Tigers for not allowing safe passage to its workers in areas they control. There has been no comment from the Tamil Tigers, who have suffered a series of reverses in recent months.

The rebels are now confined to their sole remaining stronghold in the north - the area surrounding the town of Mullaitivu.

There are fears for some 250,000 civilians trapped in the fighting. The pro-rebel TamilNet website has accused the army of shelling the intensive care unit at Mullaitivu hospital. The army claims came as the UN issued what it said was "its strongest possible protest" to the Tamil Tigers.

It accused them of refusing to allow UN staff to return from rebel-held areas where they travelled last Friday to deliver food and emergency supplies to displaced people.—Internet



The military says that the rebels will soon be defeated.—INTERNET

Obama to engage in "direct" diplomacy with Iran



Obama will engage in "tough and direct" diplomacy with Iran "without preconditions", the White House has said.—INTERNET

WASHINGTON, 22 Jan—Barack Obama, the new US president, will engage in "tough and direct"

diplomacy with Iran "without preconditions", the White House has said. The Obama administration said in a website statement on Wednesday that it aimed to use "the power of American diplomacy" over what it called "Iran's illicit nuclear programme, support for terrorism, and threats towards Israel". "Seeking this kind of comprehensive settlement with Iran is our best way to make progress," the statement said. It added

that should Iran abandon its nuclear programme the US would offer incentives such as membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO), economic investment and moves towards normal diplomatic relations. Iran said Wednesday it is "ready for new approaches" from President Barack Obama as, across the Islamic world, countries cautiously welcomed his promise of "mutual respect" between the US and Muslims.—Internet

South Africa to host regional summit on Zimbabwe

HARARE, 22 Jan—South Africa will host a special regional summit on Monday to discuss the crisis in Zimbabwe, officials said on Thursday.

The summit follows the failure of talks earlier this week to bridge the divide between Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and Morgan Tsvangirai, leader of the main opposition Movement for Democratic Change, on forming a power-sharing government.

"The summit of heads of state and government is expected to be attended by all (Southern African Development Community) member states," the South African Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Zimbabwe is a member of SADC and the statement said the MDC was also expected to attend the summit.

South African President Kgalema Motlanthe, Mozambique's President Armando Guebuza and Thabo Mbeki, SADC mediator and former South African president, met the two Zimbabwean sides in Harare last Monday but no agreement was reached. —Internet

Zimbabwe cholera death toll soars

HARARE, 22 Jan—More than 2,700 people have now died in Zimbabwe's cholera epidemic - a 20% rise in a week, the UN's World Health Organization (WHO) says.

Nearly 50,000 people have been infected with the preventable disease, WHO says.

The start of the rainy season could lead to even more infections, as water sources become contaminated, aid workers have warned.

President Robert Mugabe has faced increasing criticism for his country's dire economic and humanitarian plight.

Mr Mugabe's allies have accused Western countries of trying to use the cholera outbreak as an excuse to topple him.

—Internet



The collapse of the health system has fuelled the cholera outbreak, medias said. INTERNET

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myintadvocate@mptmail.net.mm
Ph: 371 990 23.Jan.2009

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (TGA 427)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TEGAP VOY NO (TGA 427) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.1.2009 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Job losses hitting men harder than women

NEW YORK, 22 Jan— The economic crisis is hitting men much harder than women in the workplace, largely because male-dominated industries like construction and transportation are bearing the brunt of job losses, figures show.

Women, meanwhile, dominate sectors that are still growing, like government and healthcare, experts said.

"It's men that have taken the hit," said Andrew Sum, director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University in Boston. "It's been an overwhelmingly male phenomena."

Four-fifths of the 2.74 million people who lost their jobs between November 2007 and November 2008 were men, Sum said.

The biggest losses came in construction, where men comprise 87 percent of the work force, he said. Large losses also came in manufacturing and wholesale trade, where men make up more than two-thirds of the work force, he said.

"Males were dominant in sectors that were taking a bad hit," he said. "It's men and the blue-collar jobs. It's overwhelming."—*Internet*

Trial for Swiss BMW 'blackmailer'

MUNICH, 22 Jan—A Swiss man accused of blackmailing Germany's richest woman, BMW heiress Susanne Klatten, is due to stand trial in March, a Munich court has decided.

Helg Sgarbi has been charged with attempted blackmail, attempted fraud and fraud after allegedly secretly filming their trysts during an affair. He allegedly targeted other rich women in similar scams. The trial starts on 9 March. If convicted, Mr Sgarbi could be sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

Mrs Klatten, a married business tycoon who owns a 12.5% stake in BMW, had earlier said she ended the affair with Mr Sgarbi when he tried to blackmail her. She reportedly gave him several million euros when he said he needed money to pay off the mafia.

Once their affair was over, he allegedly said he would release photos of the couple, taken in mid 2007, unless she paid him more. But instead of giving away more of her fortune, the reclusive 46-year-old mother-of-three went to the police, her spokesman said in November 2008.

Internet

Brazilian Miss World contestant Mariana Bridi da Costa loses hands, feet to infection

SAO PAULO, 22 Jan—A 20-year-old model who was a finalist to represent Brazil in the Miss World contest has had her hands and feet amputated after contracting a severe urinary infection, media reports said today.

Mariana Bridi da Costa was sedated in a hospital in Serra, in the southeastern state of Espirito Santo, and on artificial respiration following the procedures, according to several newspapers. Bridi was diagnosed with a infection by the Pseudomonas aeruginosa bacterium, which can often prove fatal. Septicemia set in in her limbs, cutting off circulation and forcing doctors to amputate.

Her boyfriend, Thiago

Simois, told the G1 news website that Bridi fell ill on 30 December, but was initially misdiagnosed with kidney stones. The infection quickly spread, causing her to go back to hospital for tests that revealed her condition. Surgeons had to act to remove her damaged hands and feet.

Her father, Agnaldo da Costa, told the *Folha de S Paulo* newspaper that "the concern is over her life".

Bridi twice made it into the national finals for the Miss World contest, and last year travelled to China to participate in the Miss Bikini International pageant, G1 said.

Internet



Mariana Bridi da Costa.—INTERNET

Feather found on Hudson crash jet



Investigators have found "organic material" in one of the plane's engines.—INTERNET

NEW YORK, 22 Jan— US investigators examining the jet that ditched into New York's Hudson River last week say they have found a feather and evidence of "soft body impact". Police divers have also found the jet's second engine at the riv-

er's bottom. Investigators have already confirmed that a collision with a flock of birds caused the US Airways Airbus A320 to lose power and ditch in the river. All 155 passengers and crew of Flight 1549 survived the landing on the Hudson. "What

appears to be organic material was found in the right engine and on the wings and fuselage," the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said in its latest statement. The right engine has been externally examined and "numerous internal components of the engine were significantly damaged".

Samples of the "organic material" are being sent to the Department of Agriculture for DNA analysis and the single feather "found attached to a flap track on the wing" is being sent to bird identification experts at the Smithsonian Institution.—*Internet*

Windows worm trickery for Vista



The "Open folder" option appears in the "Install or run programme" list. INTERNET

LONDON, 22 Jan—The Conficker virus has opened a new can of worms for security experts. Drives such as USB sticks infected with the virus trick users into installing the worm, according to researchers. The "Autoplay" function in Vista and early versions of Windows 7 automatically searches for programmes on removable drives. However, the virus hijacks this process, mas-

querading as a folder to be opened. When clicked, the worm installs itself.

It then attempts to contact one of a number of web servers, from which it could download another programme that could take control of the infected computer. The worm is unusually clever in the way that it determines what server to contact, according to F-Secure's chief research officer Mikko Hypponen.

"It uses a complicated algorithm which changes daily and is based on timestamps from public websites such as Google.com and Baidu.com," said Mr Hypponen in a blog post. "This makes it impossible and/or impractical for us good guys to shut them all down — most of them are never registered in the first place.

"However, the bad guys only need to predetermine one possible domain for tomorrow, register it, and set up a website — and they then gain access to all of the infected machines," he added.—*Internet*

Two Indonesians died of bird flu

JAKARTA, 22 Jan —Two Indonesians have died of bird flu, apparently after contact with sick chickens, raising the country's death toll to 115, the Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

A ministry statement said a 6-year-old girl in Bekasi, West Java, died on 2 Jan. She got sick after buying a chicken with her parents at a market and was hospitalized for a week. A 29-year-old woman died on 16 Dec in Tangerang just outside

the capital, Jakarta. She developed flu-like symptoms after visiting a market and died in a hospital five days later.

Double laboratory testing confirmed they had the H5N1 strain of avian influenza, the statement said.

Indonesia has regularly recorded human deaths from bird flu since the virus began ravaging poultry stocks across Asia in 2003.

It first reported deaths from the disease in 2005.

The World Health Organization — which bases its tally on national figures — put Indonesia's death toll from the virus at 113 out of 249 recorded fatalities worldwide, including three Chinese victims this year. In Beijing, the Health Ministry said Wednesday that a large-scale outbreak of bird flu was unlikely in China even though the country has reported four cases this month.

Internet



An oil and gas production platform off the coast of Nigeria. Oil prices slid close to a four-year low under 33 dollars per barrel in a market plagued by weak global demand.—INTERNET

Intel to cut up to 6,000 jobs

BEIJING, 22 Jan — Intel Corp said Wednesday it would close older manufacturing plants as part of a restructuring that would affect as many as 6,000 people.

Intel said it would close two assembly test facilities in Penang, Malaysia, and one in Cavite, Philippines.

It will halt production at a wafer fabrication facility in Hillsboro, Oregon, and stop some operations at a facility in Santa Clara, California.

Intel said in a statement that between 5,000 and 6,000 jobs would be affected, but added that some employees would be offered positions elsewhere in the company.

The closures won't slow down a shift to more advanced manufacturing technologies, Intel said. The company has its most modern plants in New Mexico, Oregon, Arizona, Israel and Ireland.

Intel's shares rose about 1 percent to 13.40 dollars in after-hours trad-

ing, after rising 3.11 percent to close at 13.26 on the Nasdaq stock market.

The world's biggest chipmaker is coping with a reduction in demand for PC chips that has left its factories operating at less than their full capacity.

On Tuesday, Intel said it was lowering prices on some of its processors, including price cuts of up to 40 percent on some of its higher-powered, faster quad-core chips.

Internet

Smoking bans may have unintended consequences

BEIJING, 22 Jan — Smoking bans in public buildings, workplaces, even at some outdoor venues are now commonplace that may even lead to the practice of barring smokers from employment in the US. But this approach is unfair and may have unintended consequences that do more harm than good, according to researchers in an essay in the journal Tobacco Control as quoted by media on Thursday.

Policies prohibiting the hiring of smokers have become much more popular in the past year, a co-author of the report, Dr. Michael Siegel, told media on Wednesday. Siegel, a professor at Boston University School of Public Health, is a tobacco-control advocate.

But he and co-author Brian Houle, of the University of Washington, fear the widespread adoption of such policies may make smokers nearly unemployable, cause them to lose their health insurance and affect their health and that of their families.

Moreover, they say, refusing to hire smokers is discriminatory and may lead to the adoption of other selective employment practices, such as not hiring people who are overweight or who have high cholesterol. —Internet

Fire burns NYC hospital; 600 patients moved

NEW YORK, 22 Jan — A fire at a major hospital sent smoke pouring through an emergency room Wednesday, injuring at least six firefighters and forcing 600 patients to be moved across the sprawling complex.

The fire began shortly before 6:30 pm in a second-floor mechanical room at the Mount Sinai Medical Center in Man-

hattan and spread to a first-floor emergency room, Fire Department spokesman Frank Dwyer said. The fire was confined to the mechanical room and the cause was not known.

Dwyer said patients were moved from the east wings to the west wings of the 12-story hospital, which has nearly 1,200 beds, as firefighters

searched the building. The patients had been on the third through 11th floors.

There were no reports of injuries among patients.

Hours later, patients that had been forced to flee were being allowed back to their floors, said a hospital spokesman in a statement released at 10:55 pm.

Flames from the Manhattan building were visible from the adjacent Madison Avenue, said Janet Montero, a manager at a nearby restaurant.

Jesus Ochoa, 43, a patient awaiting a surgical procedure, was with family in his eighth-floor room when an alarm went off, said his daughter, Jessica Ochoa.

Jessica Ochoa said she saw and smelled smoke: "We couldn't breathe."

Internet



Fire dancers perform during a late night show in Minsk on 20 January, 2009. —XINHUA

When kids wheeze, steroids don't help

BEIJING, 22 Jan — Giving steroids to children who are wheezing because of viral or other infections does not help, according to studies in the *New England Journal of Medicine* as quoted by media on Thursday.

These studies show an experimental treatment designed to prevent wheezing may be effective, but it seems to pose too many risks to be recommended. About one-third of preschool children develop wheezing, which can worry parents in the United Kingdom. At least 75 percent outgrow the problem by age 6. In the past, doctors have

treated it as they would asthma, which is why they often use corticosteroids.

"It is clear that on the basis of these two studies, current practice must change," Dr Andrew Bush of the Imperial School of Medicine and Royal Brompton Hospital in London wrote in a commentary. Dr Jonathan Grigg of Queen Mary University in London and colleagues found that children given five days of the steroid prednisolone stayed just as long in hospital as children given a placebo. They tested nearly 700 children aged 10 months to 5 years old.

Internet



People gather inside an entrance to The Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York after a fire broke out earlier at the hospital Wednesday on 21 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

SPORTS

Espanyol and Barcelona draw, Valencia and Sevilla thrill in King's

MADRID, 22 Jan — Espanyol and FC Barcelona produced a dull 0-0 draw in the first leg of their Kings Cup quarter-final in the Olympic Stadium in Barcelona on Wednesday night.

The appointment of Mauricio Pochettino as new Espanyol coach on Tuesday added extra spice to the game as the city's two teams went head to head for a place in the last four of Spain's knockout competition.

However, Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola saw the game as the chance to give minutes to some of his fringe players such as Alexander Hleb and Bojan Krkic. —Xinhua



Barcelona's Sergio Busquets (L) and Carles Puyol (R) fight for the ball against Espanyol's Sanchez (C) during their Spanish King's Cup soccer match at Lluís Companys stadium in Barcelona.—XINHUA

Safin, Federer to clash, Nalbandian crashes out of Australian Open



Russian Marat Safin returns a shot to Spain's Ivan Navarro during the first round of the men's singles at the 2009 Australian Open held in Melbourne, Australia.

XINHUA

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan — Two former Australian Open champions and World No 1 players will face off in the third round after Swiss Roger Federer eased past Evgeny Korolev from Russia 6-2, 6-3, 6-1 and Russian Marat Safin defeated Spaniard Guillermo Garcia-Lopez

7-5, 6-2, 6-2 here on Wednesday.

The second-seeded Federer took advantage of his 20-year-old opponent's 44 unforced errors to race to the win in just 87 minutes. The three-time Australian Open champion is chasing his 14th Grand Slam title, which would tie him with Pete Sampras's record.

Federer holds a 9-2 lead in the head-to-head series against Safin, but the 28-year-old Russian won their sole previous meeting at the Australian Open, prevailing in a 9-7 fifth set in the 2005 semi-finals.

Safin, a winner of 15 titles on the ATP World Tour tennis circuit, went on to defeat Lleyton Hewitt in the 2005 championship match but has gone titleless since. Safin said: "I have nothing to worry about. I'm going to play my match. We know each other pretty well."

Xinhua

Spurs leave it late to see off Burnley

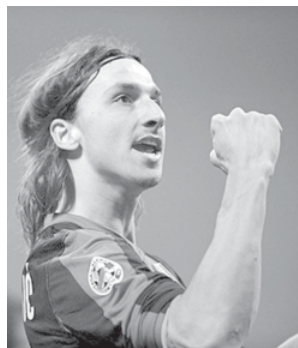


Tottenham Hotspur's Russian forward Roman Pavlyuchenko (L) controls the ball in front of Burnley's English defender Clarke Carlisle during the Carling Cup semi final football match at Turf Moor, Burnley. —INTERNET

BURNLEY, 22 Jan — Strikers Roman Pavlyuchenko and Jermain Defoe scored deep into extra-time here on Wednesday to break Burnley hearts and ensure holders Tottenham Hotspur will face Manchester United in the League Cup final.

With under three minutes of extra-time left at Turf Moor, the second-tier Championship side were on course to go through to a 1 March meeting at Wembley with world champions United on the away goals rule.—Internet

Inter squeeze past Roma into Cup semi-final



Inter Milan's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic celebrates after scoring during the Italian Cup match between Inter Milan and AS Roma at San Siro Stadium in Milan. Milan won 2-1.

INTERNET

ROME, 22 Jan — Inter Milan moved a step closer to their fifth Italian Cup final appearance in a row with a 2-1 quarter-final victory over AS Roma at the San Siro on Wednesday.

Goals from Adriano and Zlatan Ibrahimovic were enough to give the Italian champions a place in the semi-finals despite Rodrigo Taddei's reply for the capital club.

These two sides had contested the last four Coppa Italia finals, winning two each.

Internet

Spurs get Palacios in 14 million pound deal

LONDON, 22 Jan — Tottenham finally won their battle to wrest highly-rated Honduran midfielder Wilson Palacios away from Wigan on Wednesday after the two clubs agreed a fee believed to be around 14 million pounds.

Wigan had turned down a ten million pound offer earlier this month but manager Steve Bruce had been resigned to losing the 24-year-old in the event of Spurs coming back with a higher bid.—Internet



Tottenham have finally won their battle to wrest highly-rated Honduran midfielder Wilson Palacios.

INTERNET

Revitalised Roddick heaps praise on new coach

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan — A fitter, leaner Andy Roddick has piled praise on new coach Larry Stefanki as he remained on course for the Australian Open's final stages.

Roddick, 26, teamed up with Stefanki in December and credited thorough off-season preparations with his back-to-back wins here.

The former world number one downed Swedish qualifier Bjorn Rehnquist before grinding out a testing four-setter with Belgian veteran Xavier Malisse.

Internet



Andy Roddick of the US reacts in his game against Xavier Malisse of Belgium during their match on the third day of the Australian Open in Melbourne, on January 21.—INTERNET

'D-minus' Serena swotting up for Aussie Open tilt

MELBOURNE, 22 Jan — Three-time Australian Open champion Serena Williams graded herself a "D-minus" in the tournament second round but still ticked enough boxes to advance in straight sets.

"Lots and lots and lots of room for improvement," was the American second seed's assessment after she made heavy work of a 6-3, 7-5 win over Argentinian Gisela Dulko.

Serena, the bookies' favourite to claim the season-opening Grand Slam, conceded she was not yet playing at a level where she could expect to win her tenth major.

"Today I was at like a D minus at best, that's pretty far away" she said. "But it's good that I was able to win when I wasn't playing my best. I definitely will try to do better."—Internet

Perez takes Hope lead with opening 61

LA QUINTA, 22 Jan — Pat Perez shot a 61 on Wednesday to take the lead in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic on a warm, still day in the desert resort area when his sparkling 11-under round was only good enough for a one-shot lead.

With playing conditions ideal, 2003 tournament champion Mike Weir and Bubba Watson opened the five-day tournament with 62s, and six players were another shot behind on the jam-packed leaderboard.

Perez, intimately familiar with how things can go in the low-scoring Hope, wasn't exactly doing handsprings over his round that was just two shots off the PGA Tour record of 59, last matched by David Duval in the fi-



Pat Perez watches his tee shot on the fifth hole of the Arnold Palmer Private Course at PGA West during the first round of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic PGA golf tournament in La Quinta, Calif, on 21 Jan, 2009.—INTERNET

nal round of his 1999 victory on the same Palmer Course at PGA West.

Internet



Holly Crawford of Australia competes in the women's Snowboard World Championships in South Korea.—INTERNET

Scientists want DNA tests on Galileo for “eye test”

ROME, 22 Jan—Italian and British scientists want to exhume the body of 16th century astronomer Galileo for DNA tests to determine if his severe vision problems may have affected some of his findings. The scientists told *Reuters* on Thursday that DNA tests would help answer some unresolved questions about the health of the man known as the father of astronomy, whom the Vatican condemned for teaching that the earth revolves around the sun. “If we knew exactly what was wrong with his eyes we could use computer models to recreate what he saw in his telescope,” said Paolo Galluzzi, director of the Museum of History and Science in Florence, the city where Galileo is buried.

Galileo, who lived from 1564 to 1642, is known to have had intermittent eye problems for the second half of his life and was totally blind for his last two years.

One of the “errors” that Galileo made, which Galluzzi suspects may have been attributed to his bad eyesight, is that he believed Saturn was not perfectly round but may have had an irregular, inflated side. With his 20-power telescope and with his eyes in bad shape he might have mistaken Saturn’s gaseous ring to surmise that it was formed of one planet with two moons as satellites.

Galileo was buried in Florence’s Santa Croce Basilica about 100 years after his death. Before, his remains were hidden in a bell tower room because the Church opposed a proper burial.—*Internet*

MRTV-3 Programme Schedule (23.1.2009) (Friday)

Transmission Times

Local Transmission	- (09:00am ~ 10:00am) MST
Abroad Transmission (Europe)	- (15:30pm ~ 23:30pm) MST
Abroad Transmission (North America)	- (23:30pm ~ 07:30am) MST

Local Transmission

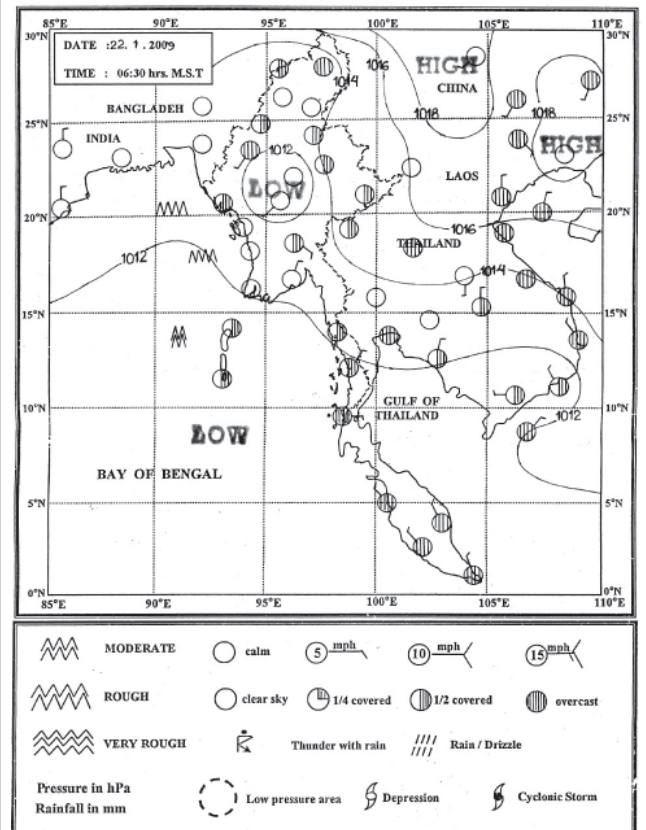
- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Fossilized Wood Picture
- * The Fruits of Myanmar
- * The Longest Beach Resort in Myanmar (Ngwehsaung)
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Inlay, Southern Shan State)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Abroad Transmissions

- * Signature Tune
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights
- * Arts of Myanmar Traditional Tapestry
- * Travclogue “Ngapali”
- * Myanmar Orchestra, A Blend of Arts!
- * Weaving Industry of Lotus Clothes
- * Sights to see in Pyin-Oo-Lwin
- * Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (I)
- * Myanmar Modern Song
- * Fossilized Wood Picture
- * The Fruits of Myanmar
- * Smogless sky, Enchanting Smiles (Inlay, Southern Shan State)
- * Rope Painting
- * Clothes decorated with Sequin-like Colourful Plastics
- * Expedition of Rare Crocodile Species Inhabiting in Fresh And Seawaters (II)
- * Nandawun (Book Shop)
- * Song of Myanma Beauty and Scenic Sights

Website: www.mrtv3.net.mm

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Thursday, 22 January, 2009

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hr MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions. Night temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above January average temperatures in Shan State, Mandalay, upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Divisions, (5°C) above January average temperatures in Kachin State, (3°C) below January average temperatures in Chin and Kayin States and about January average temperatures in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (1°C) and Pinlaung (2°C).

Maximum temperature on 21-1-2009 was 90°F. Minimum temperature on 22-1-2009 was 60°F. Relative humidity at (09:30) hours MST on 22-1-2009 was 70%. Total sunshine hours on 21-1-2009 was (9.0) hrs approx.

Rainfall on 22-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2009 was (Nil) at Mingaladon, Kaba-Aye and Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (6) mph from Northeast at (14:30) hours MST on 21-1-2009.

Bay inference: Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 23rd January 2009: Weather will be partly cloudy in Kachin and Shan States, Taninthayi Division and generally fair in the remaining States and Divisions.

State of the sea: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of slight increase of night temperatures in the Upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring area for 23-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 23-1-2009: Generally fair weather.

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 23-1-2009: Generally fair weather.



**Friday, 23 January
View on today**

7:00 am

- မင်းကွန်းဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

- To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

- Morning news

7:40 am

- Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

- အကဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:00 am

- The mirror images of the musical oldies

8:10 am

- “အလျော်အစား” (အကယ်ဒမီစင်ပိုင်း၊ ငွေစင်သွန်း၊ ခင်သန်းနွယ်) (ဒါရိုက်တာ-ကျော်စော်လင်း)

8:20 am

- အတီးဖြိုင်ပွဲ

8:30 am

- International news

8:45 am

- Musical programme

4:00 pm

- Martial song

4:10 pm

- အဆိုဖြိုင်ပွဲ

4:20 pm

- နားဝင်ပီယံသူလက်သံ

4:30 pm

- Songs of national races

4:40 pm

- အေးသင်တက္ကသိုလ်ပညာရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနှစ် (ဓာတုဗေဒ၊ ရူပဗေဒ၊ သင်္ချာအထူးပြုများ) (ရူပဗေဒ)

4:55 pm

- Songs to uphold national spirit

5:05 pm

- မြန်မာစာမြန်မာစကား

5:15 pm

- Songs of yesteryears

5:25 pm

- “ဆုံစည်းခွင့်” (ဇိုးသားကြွ၊ မင်းထက်ကျော်စင်၊ မြတ်ကောသီအောင်၊ ချစ်သူဝေ)

[ဒါရိုက်တာ-သိန်းဟန်(ဖိုးနုစိ)]

5:40 pm

- သူရဲသီးရဲတေးကဗျာ

6:00 pm

- Evening news

6:30 pm

- Weather report

6:35 pm

- သုတစုံလင်ရွှေညာဏ်ရှင်

7:10 pm

- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ကုန်သွယ်မှုနံရံ” (အပိုင်း-၄၆)

8:00 pm

- News
- International news
- Weather report
- နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ပင်လယ်ပျော်မင်းသား” (အပိုင်း-၆၆)

Minister U Nyan Win sends message of congratulations to US Secretary of State

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Jan—U Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a congratulatory message to the Honourable Hillary Rodham Clinton, on her assumption as Secretary of the State Department of the United States of America.—MNA

True patriotism

- * It is very important for everyone of the nation regardless of the place he lives to have strong Union Spirit.
- * Only Union Spirit is the true patriotism all the nationalities will have to safeguard.

Diverted Paunglaung River takes its course at Paunglaung Hydropower Project

Article, photos: Photographer Maung Maung

The diversion of the river current at Upper Paunglaung Hydro-power Project being undertaken by Construction (1) of the Hydropower Implementation Department under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 1 on the Paunglaung River, about 26 miles east of Nay Pyi Taw Pinyinmana, took place at the project site on 5 December 2008.

At the ceremony, in order to let the river take its course, project engineers and workers blocked the river with a temporary diversion weir from its left and right banks with the use of heavy machinery, to the

(See page 10)



The diversion tunnel of Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project.

Take Fire Preventive Measures

Nile delta fishery grows dramatically

ALEXANDRIA, 22 Jan — While many of the world's fisheries are in serious decline, the coastal Mediterranean fishery off the Nile Delta has expanded dramatically since the 1980s.



Nile between Edfu and Kom Ombo in Egypt.

The surprising cause of this expansion, which followed a collapse of the fishery after completion of the Aswan High Dam in 1965, is run-off of fertilizers and sewage discharges in the region, according to a researcher at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography.

Autumn Oczkowski, a URI doctoral student, used stable isotopes of nitrogen to demonstrate that 60 to 100 percent of the current fishery production is supported by nutrients from fertilizer and sewage. Her research will be reported in the January. 21 online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

"This is really a story about how people unintentionally impact ecosystems," Oczkowski said. Historically, the Nile would flood the delta every fall, irrigate nearby agricultural land, and flow out to the Mediterranean, carrying with it nutrients to support a large and productive fishery. Construction of the dam stopped the flooding, and the fishery collapsed.

Internet

O'Shea eyeing quadruple



MANCHESTER, 22 Jan—John O'Shea says Manchester United are aiming for an unprecedented trophy quadruple.

Two seasons ago, the Red Devils looked well set for a repeat of their 1999 Treble-winning campaign only for injuries to strike at just the wrong time, leaving Sir Alex Ferguson with a squad so exhausted it was unable to cope with the demands.

Now Ferguson must privately fear the same scenario that is unfolding again.—Internet